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08 NOV 94

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CITE GUATEMALA CITY

TO: DIRECTOR.

FOR:

SUBJECT: BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS  
CASE INVOLVING U.S. CITIZEN SISTER DIANA ORTIZ

REF: NONE.

TEXT:

1. ACTION REQUIRED: NONE, FYI ONLY.

2. MENTIONED THAT U.S. CITIZEN CATHOLIC  
NUN DIANA (( ORTIZ)) FABRICATED HER STORY THAT SHE WAS ABDUCTED  
AND TORTURED IN 1989 BY UNIDENTIFIED MEMBERS OF A GUATEMALAN  
GOVERNMENT SECURITY SERVICE. BROUGHT UP THE SUBJECT  
BECAUSE GUATEMALAN NEWSPAPERS AND TELEVISION HAD REPORTED THAT  
ORTIZ RETURNED TO GUATEMALA IN LATE OCTOBER 1994 TO PURSUE  
EFFORTS TO IDENTIFY HER KIDNAPPERS.) OPINED ORTIZ  
FABRICATED HER STORY IN A URNG-DIRECTED EFFORT TO FORCE AN END  
TO

3. OFFERED THAT HE LEARNED ORTIZ HAD FABRICATED HER  
STORY AFTER A FOREIGN JOURNALIST MET DURING ONE OF ORTIZ' POST-1989 VISITS TO  
GUATEMALA. EXPLAINED THAT THE FOREIGN JOURNALIST ADVISED  
THAT HE LEARNED FROM URNG SOURCES THAT THE  
ORTIZ STORY HAD BEEN FABRICATED BY THE URNG AND THAT IT WAS  
INTENDED TO FORCE AN END TO FUNDING TO GUATEMALAN  
SECURITY SERVICES. SAID HE COULD NOT REMEMBER THE NAME OR  
NATIONALITY OF THE FOREIGN JOURNALIST, OR RECALL WHEN OR WHERE  
THE MEETING BETWEEN THE JOURNALIST AND TOOK  
PLACE.)

4. FOR WHAT IT'S WORTH, THREE SEPARATE  
FACTS SURROUNDING THE ORTIZ CASE MAKE THE CASE APPEAR  
QUESTIONABLE.

Approved for Release

Date

JUNE 1996

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A. ORTIZ CLAIMS THAT THE SITE WHERE SHE WAS HELD AND TORTURED IN 1989 WAS THE OLD MILITARY ACADEMY ("ESCUELA POLITECNICA") IN ZONE 10 OF GUATEMALA CITY. IT APPEARS SHE MAY HAVE BEEN COACHED TO SAY THIS BY UNKNOWN PARTIES WHO MAY HAVE KNOWN THAT THE D-2 HAD ITS HEADQUARTERS THERE IN PREVIOUS YEARS AND ILLEGALLY DETAINED PERSONS THERE. THE D-2, HOWEVER, MOVED FROM THE SITE IN 1984 AND REPORTEDLY COMPLETELY DISMANTLED THEIR FACILITIES.

B. ORTIZ HAS CLAIMED THAT SHE WAS BURNED BY CIGARETTES DURING TORTURE AND HAS OVER 100 SCARS ON HER BODY FROM THE BURNS. ORTIZ SUBMITTED TO THE GUATEMALAN COURTS AN AFFIDAVIT FROM A U.S. MEDICAL DOCTOR ATTESTING THAT THE DOCTOR HAD SEEN THE SCARS, BUT ORTIZ HAS REFUSED TO PERMIT A GUATEMALAN COURT-APPOINTED DOCTOR TO VERIFY THAT SHE HAS THE SCARS.

C. THE STATION HAS A COPY OF ORTIZ' 31 JANUARY 1991 STATEMENT OF HER TORTURE IN WHICH SHE CLAIMS THAT AT WHATEVER SITE SHE WAS HELD IN 1989 (DURING HER TORTURE), A CAUCASIAN NORTH AMERICAN MALE WHO WAS CALLED "ALEJANDRO" BY HER KIDNAPPERS VISITED THE SITE AND SPOKE WITH HER. ORTIZ CLAIMS THIS SAME MALE ACCOMPANIED HER IN A CAR TO TAKE HER TO SEE A "FRIEND FROM THE NORTH AMERICAN EMBASSY" WHEN SHE MANAGED TO ESCAPE BY JUMPING OUT OF THE CAR IN ZONE 5 OF GUATEMALA CITY. ASIDE FROM THE OBVIOUS POLITICAL OVERTONES IN HER STATEMENT, THIS PART OF ORTIZ' STATEMENT DOES APPEAR TO BE AN ATTEMPT TO FORCE THE CONCLUSION THAT ORTIZ WAS KIDNAPPED AND TORTURED BY A GUATEMALAN SECURITY SERVICE WITH WHICH [REDACTED] HAS LIAISON, AND THAT, FURTHER, AN [REDACTED] LIAISON OFFICER MUST HAVE BEEN AWARE OF HER KIDNAPING AND TORTURE.

[REDACTED]

5. FILE: [REDACTED]  
END OF MESSAGE

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